

Richmond L. Williams
Chief Counsel, Environmental Litigation

Ashland Inc.

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April 11, 2013

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Leslie Blake
Remediation Project Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 5
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590

Re: General Notice of Potential Liability for the Gary Development Landfill Site

Dear Ms. Blake:

Ashland Inc. ("Ashland") acknowledges receipt of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's ("EPA") general notice letter stating that Ashland may be a potentially responsible party at the Gary Development Landfill Site ("Site").

Ashland has no documents in its possession that suggest any connection with the Site, other than those provided by EPA which refer to a one time disposal of asbestos pipe lagging. Ashland's understanding is that the Site is a former landfill that operated from approximately 1975 to 1989 and accepted diverse types of materials, including hazardous waste, for disposal. EPA has documented the release or threat of release of contaminants, such as volatile organics, metals, SVOCs, and pesticides. In light of this information, it would appear that Ashland has not disposed a hazardous substance that is causing or contributing to the conditions that are creating a risk to public health or the environment.

However, since there is not yet a complete compilation of potentially available information to identify PRPs and what they have sent to the site, Ashland will participate on an interim basis with the PRP group until this information has been obtained and reviewed. At that point Ashland will make a decision about its future participation.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R. L. Williams".

Richmond L. Williams
Chief Counsel, Environmental Litigation

cc: Bernard J. Reilly, Esq.



Extremely Urgent

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Leslie Blake, Remed. Project Mgr.
US EPA Region 5
77 West Jackson Boulevard

CHICAGO, IL 60604

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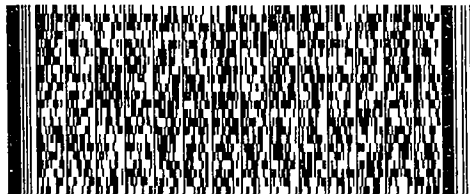
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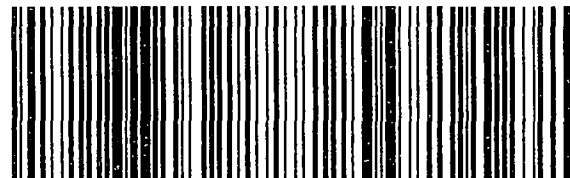
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